DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE
Intelligence Information Handling Committee
WASHINGTON, DC 20505

Meet

15 MAR 1985
LOGGED

IHC/MM 85-25
5 March 1985

MEMORANDUM FOR: CIRS Management Coordination Group Members

FROM: [ ]   **STAT**
Information Handling Committee

SUBJECT: CIRS Management Coordination Group Meeting

1. Attached is the agenda for the next CIRS Management Coordination Group meeting on Wednesday, 13 March 1985, at 1300-1530 hours in Room 6N05 of the [ ] I would like to discuss topics/items   25X1 that I propose to brief at the DCI/IHC off-site conference to be held on 2-3 April 1985.

2. I look forward to your attendance and participation.

STAT

Attachment: a/s

Distribution:

STAT

Agenda for
CIRS Management Coordination Group Meeting

13 March 1985

1300-1310	Opening Remarks	STAT
1310-1320	MITRE Contract Status	
1320-1340	Status of CUI Specifications	
1340-1400	Review of Report of the CIRS Common Concept Code Working Group	
1400-1410	Break	
1410-1500	Review of Subjects for IHC Off-Site Meeting, 1-3 Apr 85 -- Major Milestones -- CUI Overview -- CIRS Security -- Common Concept Codes	STAT
1500-1530	Review of Budget Items for CIRS and DCI Guidance (Government Attendees Only)	

SUMMARY OF EFFORTS OF CIRS
COMMON CONCEPT CODE WORKING GROUP

After extended discussions, the Common Concept Codes Working Group requested that MITRE prepare a combination of indexing codes from CIA/RECON, STATE/TAGS, DIA/DIT, and NSA/SOLIS.

The combination grouping had a hierarchical format and appeared to be awkward to apply. However, by request, the Working Group directed MITRE to apply these codes to the DCID 1/2 document. That effort led to further testing of the combined codes, applying them to small samples of documents at FTD and NSA. These tests were completed and reported on in mid-November 1984.

All three tests were, at best, inconclusive and at worst, failures to demonstrate a simple, easy to use Common Concept Coding scheme. The group generally concluded that this sort of combining of the various agencies' internal codes holds little promise <u>at this point</u>. (Emphasis added here to point out that it was felt that the combining effort was by no means exhaustive nor was it accomplished in a true R&D style--it was a quick exploration).

In the course of the Group's efforts up to this point Common Concept Coding analysis has been found quite elusive. After a wide-ranging lecture/ discussion with an expert consultant, members of the Group concluded that existing data and on-going research from the Artificial Intelligence world would have to be brought into the Group's proceedings if progress is to occur.

In combination with those steps, a completely different approach (other than combining present codes) to the Common Concept Code would be sought.

Specifically in summary:

1. The Working Group, with MITRE help, tested a scheme that used a combination of indexing codes from four Community systems. These tests did not support further effort on the combination of terms used.

2. Expert opinion given to the Group clearly supports the need for new and wider information to be brought into the Group's proceedings; specifically expert planning from indexing/data organization professionals and from current work of Artificial Intelligence (AI).

3. The Group does feel that useful progress can be made within 1985 either to support extended development work or abandonment of this project until other (e.g., AI) research generates breakthroughs.

4. To continue now requires IHC support both in arranging briefings from AI experts and funding a brief planning study by an indexing professional.

5. The CIRS Management Group has responded to these first combined codes tests with the reaction to test other approaches--a straightforward reaction that does argue for further data gathering.